

WYOMING BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS

Roger J. Barton
Casper

Ronald A. Baugh
Casper

David S. Gardner
Greybull

Gary B. Glass
Laramie

R. Terry Leigh
Green River

W. Roger Miller
Casper

William F. Sherman
Cheyenne

Telephone Number: (307)766-2490 ♦ Fax Number: (307)766-2713 ♦ E-Mail: wbrpg@wsgr.uwyo.edu

BULLETIN #96-1

August 1, 1996

To keep you better informed, the Wyoming Board of Registration for Professional Geologists (Board) will issue bulletins on an "as needed" basis. Should you have any questions regarding the information provided, or suggestions on what we might discuss in a future bulletin, please feel free to contact the Board office.

PROPER USE OF A PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST'S SEAL

Why place your seal on documents? First and foremost, Wyoming Statutes (W.S. § 33-41-115) require Professional Geologists (PGs) registered in Wyoming to seal all geologic documents they offer to the public. Secondly, your seal on a document is a vivid indication to the public that the document was prepared by a professional whose education, experience, and professional character and repute has been verified by the Board. And finally, the seal will help the public understand that work performed by a geologist is just as professional as that of an engineer, architect, or surveyor. The Board also encourages you to put "PG" after your name on all correspondence, and to include your registration number on your business cards.

Sealing means that your seal must be properly affixed on the title page of reports and on each sheet of unbound drawings or maps. The seal must be placed over your signature and you must put a date on it as well. You must place your seal on all reports, maps, or letters prepared, issued by or under your supervision, or approved by you, whenever these documents could be construed as geological "consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, mapping, or inspection of geological work".

W.S. §9-2-802(a) carries this requirement to seal things slightly further in that it requires a geologist or professional geologist to prepare or approve any geological report required by law or rule or prepared for the state, or an agency or political subdivision of the state. The added requirement is that a PG who "approves" any document described above must also affix a seal to that document. Section 2(e) of Chapter IV of the Board's rules makes it clear that a PG's approval on such a document requires thorough technical review. It is still legal in Wyoming for a non-registered geologist to do these things even if they are not a PG, except that certain agencies are now requiring a PG's approval. It is illegal, however, for a non-geologist to submit geologic documents to these entities.

There has been some confusion as to whether or not a seal is needed on geologic exhibits prepared for the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. While the Commission's statutes do not require that a geologist or professional geologist prepare geologic exhibits, the Board's statutes are clear. If you prepare these geologic documents for submittal to the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, you must sign, date, and properly affix your seal on these documents.

Also, if you change your name or replace your current seal (crimp-type or rubber-stamp type) with the other type, your new seal must be approved by the Board before you can use it to seal anything. Contact the Board office for a list of vendors and a form on which you can submit an imprint of your new seal.

STATUTORY CHANGES

The Board is currently contemplating changes to its statutes that would permit specialty registration, that would give it the ability to levy fines, and that would change its current "title act" to a "practice act". In this latter case, a "practice act" would require registration of all geologists practicing before the public in Wyoming. Your comments and suggestions regarding these ideas are solicited as statutory changes could be considered in the 1997 Legislative Session.

RECOGNITION OF GEOLOGISTS REGISTERED UNDER GRANDFATHER PROVISIONS IN OTHER STATES

With the passage of new legislation [W.S. § 33-41-118(b)] and a revision to the Board's Rules and Regulations [Chapter III, Section 9(a)(ii)], Wyoming now has the authority to grant comity registration without examination to qualified professional geologists, who were registered in other states under grandfather provisions. An applicant must submit evidence that the requirements under which he or she registered were substantially identical or more stringent than those in Wyoming. An applicant must hold a current registration in the state where he or she was grandfathered and must have at least five years of professional geologic work experience subsequent to his or her date of registration in that other state. The Board continues to work through the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) to encourage other states to initiate the same type of recognition for registrants grandfathered in Wyoming. Wyoming has already granted registration under these provisions to an individual grandfathered in Idaho.

E
X
A
M
I
N
S

ASBOG NATIONAL EXAMINATION DATES (subject to change)	States now using the National Examination prepared by ASBOG:	In addition, Wyoming has reviewed and accepted state examinations from:
September 20, 1996	Arizona	Arizona
	Georgia	Idaho
April 18, 1997	Kentucky	California
	Missouri	Florida
September 12, 1997	North Carolina	Virginia
	Oregon	North Carolina
April 17, 1998	South Carolina	Oregon
	Wisconsin	Georgia
September 18, 1998	Wyoming	

?? New Address ??

If you have moved or are planning to move within the next 60 days, please let us know your new address by fax (307-766-2713) or first class mail.

1997 Renewal Notices

will be mailed the week of September 23rd. If you have not received yours by October 10th, contact the Board office as soon as possible.

WBRPG

PO Box 3008
Laramie WY 82071-3008